

**South Carolina Environmental Laboratory Advisory Council Meeting
April 11, 2001**

Meeting called to order at 10:31 am at DHEC Quality Training Center, State Park Campus.

Attendance

Paul Fitzgerald	Joseph Della-Volle
Lee Barnard	Alfred Baquiran
Michael Moore	Mark Ferrell
Frances Miller	Charmaine Flemming
T. John Williams	

I. Old Business:

- 1) **Permitting Issues:** The chair was unable to attend this meeting; therefore no updated information was available. ***Please submit specific permitting issues, such as limits, data flagging, or other concerns to your representatives.***
- 2) **Laboratory Certification Inconsistency Position Letter:** Wayne Davis has positively responded to the consistency letter and welcomes the councils assistance.
- 3) **Microbiology Quality Control:** Representatives were informed that this matter was still under consideration by lab certification personnel.
- 4) **Proficiency Testing (PT) Issues:**
Sam Avery was unable to attend this meeting; therefore no updated information was available.

II. New Business

- 1) **Electronic Data:** Council representatives discussed the possibility of using electronic signatures in the near future. EPA is in the process of establishing guidelines for electronic signatures and data submissions.
- 1) **Lab Cert Guidance Documents:** Representatives reviewed labcert guidance documents and discussed the best modes of organization in order to develop a standard format.
 - a. It was decided that these documents should be divided into the type of method: metals, microbiology, organics, and inorganics (titrimetric, colorimetric, potentiometer).
 - b. The field parameter guidance documents provided a good guideline to follow because it includes: guidance, checklists, and sample bench sheets.
 - c. The following guidance documents will be updated:

Titrimetric – Charmaine	Colorimetric (manual) – Joe
Electrometric/Potentiometric - Cheryl	Automated Instruments – Alfred & Paul
Gravimetric – Frances	Microbiological – Mike & Lee
 - d. Charmaine will revise the “Titrimetric” document and send by email to reps for a template.

- 2) **EPA LabCert Bulletin:** The co-chair brought a copy of the current *EPA LabCert Bulletin* which has information different laboratory certification issues across the nation. Their website is as follows www.epa.gov/safewater/standards.html. The issue discussed was proposed by Region 10 lab certification officer who requested two containers be used for performing Total Coliform analyses using Colilert; one for sample collection and one for analysis. The issue sparked a discussion of requirement vs. guidance, especially in reference to cost of supplies. ***Comments and concerns about how the discrepancy in these issues affect labs will be written in a position letter to DHEC lab cert by Charmaine, please send comments.***
- 4) **Southeastern Laboratory Society:** Frances Miller, treasurer of the Southeastern Laboratory Society, encouraged representatives to become involved in this organization that consists of lab directors, analysts, and others concerned about data quality and efficiency. ***Contact Frances for membership information.***

III. Adjournment